

Tallahassee National Cemetery
RFP VA-101-14-R-0113
Response to Request for Information

Answers shown in bold italics

Question #1

I am writing about the above listed solicitation.

File: Va101-14R-0113-070 - the last five drawings are bad-half page.

File: Va101-14R-0113-071 - the drawings are also bad-half page.

Will there be an amendment with the corrections?

Please keep me informed.

Response: Drawing Parts 11 & 12 have been re-posted in Amendment #1. The Telecommunications drawings are printable as is.

Question #2

It has been brought to my attention by a scheduling contractor, with over 40 years of experience, that the requirements of the specifications for scheduling can't be met because the newer software programs cannot meet them. Specifically, Paragraph 1.7.2.h on page 6 of Section 01 32 16.13. This legend is a relic from the VA specifications of the 1960s and cannot be produced by modern schedule programs, specifically P6. The problem is the remote connectors shown in the legend. Please clarify if the VA will allow the recent version(s) of P6 in lieu of the specified format.

Response: Provide the available output from the latest version of P6 which yields the required information contained in 1.7.2.h.

Question #3

We are in the process of accessing the plans uploaded on the FBO.gov website however the irrigation plans will not print full pages. Please advise.

Response: Drawing Parts 11 & 12 have been re-posted in Amendment #1.

Question #4

We have received the plans for the Tallahassee National Cemetery. One section, Part 12, Sheets 164-179 Irrigation, is missing the left side of each page. So far, this is the only set of pdf files that appears to have an issue. Is there someplace to get the correct full pages? Thank you.

Response: Drawing Parts 11 & 12 have been re-posted in Amendment #1.

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Question #5

Part 2 Proposal Preparation (page 11) states to submit 3 copies of our Technical Proposal and 1 Price Proposal. Do you want 1 Original and 3 copies for Technical and 1 Original and 1 Copy for Price or 3 TOTAL Technical and 1 TOTAL Price?

Response: One technical original with three copies. One cost original. One CD with electronic copies of technical and cost proposals.

Factor 1 Past Performance requires us to submit up to 10 projects. May we include our Key Subcontractors Experience in this section?

Response: The offeror needs to ascertain what past performance information that needs to be submitted which may or may not include key subcontractors.

Factor 2 Specialized Experience requires "double spaced" narratives. With such a short page limitation please consider changing this requirement to single spaced or giving us additional pages.

Factor 3 Construction Management requires "double spaced" narratives. With such a short page limitation please consider changing this requirement to single spaced or giving us additional pages.

Factor 4 Key Personnel requires "double spaced" narratives. With such a short page limitation please consider changing this requirement to single spaced or giving us additional pages.

Response: Single-spacing is acceptable. The overall page limitation has not changed.

Factor 4 - Key Personnel - Do you have a resume template you would like us to follow? Or what specific information should we include on each resume?

Response: Not template is available.

Attachment 1 - We cannot type into the form you gave us. Please provide a form that we can work in.

Response: Attachment 1 is a MS Word document. Click the box that says "enable editing."

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Question #6

Section # 03-48-24 columbaria specifications call for the columbaria to be made from White cement. Is this correct or should it be Portland??

Response: Section 03-48-24 is hereby amended to use Portland cement in lieu of white cement.

Does the plant that is fabricating the columbaria need to be NPCA certified?

Response: The plant shall be NPCA certified.

Drawing page # AS101 detail # 5 shows the overall height of the precast columbaria to be 7'1". All of the previous VA projects that we have done, the overall height of the precast units for 5 high is 7' even. Is this going to be acceptable?

Response: The columbaria may be manufactured as 7'-0" high provided that they comply with all other aspects of the contract documents.

Question #7

I saw that it calls out a great deal of printed photography. We have and are working on several VA Clinic and Hospital projects where our cloud-based and thumb-drive archives have served to replace these printed needs, and provide more relevant access as each photo is linked directly to the project plans within 24-48 hours. Our site is fully 128-bit encrypted for security purposes as well.

Would it be possible to review our unique process and evaluate its potential as a replacement for the current spec? Photos can still be printed from the platform of course. Our general spec as often included by the project owner is also shown in the attached "Photographic Documentation" (shoot types and frequencies are variable by project and include types not shown here, such as road work and underground utility shoots.)

Response: No printed photographs are required for this contract. Provide all images in accordance with the contract documents in digital format on a CD/DVD to the SRE in accordance with the specified frequency. Additionally, place images on ftp site, web based 3rd party or similar arrangement for downloading by VA Central Office. No thumb drives or flash drives are acceptable.

Question #8

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We have been unable to find any geotechnical information or borings data in the bid documents, although borings appear to be located on the drawings. Please provide all available information.

Response: The geotechnical report has been posted in Amendment #1.

Please provide additional details for each of the retaining walls, including top and bottom elevations.

Response: The retaining wall details on sheet C-602 show the retaining wall top and bottom elevations in the retaining wall profiles. There are three retaining walls each with their own section and elevations. No additional details are required.

All the Irrigation Drawings show only half of the complete page. Please reissue the set with the full details.

Response: Drawing Parts 11 & 12 have been re-posted in Amendment #1.

The lack of the requested information is retarding the estimate. Could you consider a bid extension?

Response: The due date for receipt of proposals remains unchanged.

Question #9

Will auto-cad drawings be made available to contractor during the bidding phase? Access to auto-cad files will speed up contractors takeoff and will help minimize errors.

Response: ACAD files will not be made available to offerors.

Has geotechnical report been prepared for this project? If so, will contractor have access to this report?

Response: The geotechnical report has been posted in Amendment #1.

It appears that only ½ of each sheet of the irrigation drawings got downloaded to FBO. Please check and re-issue or provide guidance.

Response: Drawing Parts 11 & 12 have been re-posted in Amendment #1.

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Question #10

Please clarify the height of the flag pole.

Response: The flag pole height is 80', shown on sheet C-205.

I read the spec section 08 71 13.11 Low Energy Power Assist Door Operators, however I cannot find anything on the door schedule or hardware sets that indicate where any automatic door operators are located. Can you please clarify?

Response: Provide power assist door operators on doors A107, A109, A123, M123 and H100.

Question #11

Page 14 - Factor 1 Instructions - You ask that we include Part 1 of Attachment 2 (Past Performance Questionnaire) with our proposals. Will these 10 pages be included in the 50 page limit? We don't think we will have enough pages left to fully explain the rest of our technical proposal with this requirement on top of the other 10 pages for Attachment 1 which is a total of 20 pages just for Factor 1.

Response: These ten pages are not included in the 50 page limit

Question #12

Is it the intent to Hydrostatic pressure test small spray and bubblers laterals as written in section 1.8 of the Irrigation spec?

Response: Yes, hydrostatic pressure test small sprays and bubblers.

What is the meaning of SPR written in Specs 3.12 B1?

Response: SPR is the attribute for sprinklers.

Is it the intent to as-built all sprays, rotors, and bubblers?

Response: Yes, as-built all sprays rotors and bubblers.

Question #13

- 1) C-001 Drawing Sheet, General Notes 8, indicates that the Contractor shall excavate unsuitable materials and replace with suitable backfill. There is no information within the plans or specs that allows the Contractor to quantify the

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amount of unsuitable materials within the site. Are we responsible for the replacement of all unsuitable materials even though they cannot be calculated? If so, please provide a means for us to quantify the amount of unsuitable materials that we can expect to encounter.

Response: The Offeror shall estimate amounts by takeoff of RFP documents.

- 2) Sheet C-001, Paving, Grading and Drainage Notes indicate that the construction shall not commence until all proper permits are received. What permits will be required and who is responsible for the paying for the permits? If the Contractor is responsible, please provide cost to include in our proposal.

Response: VA is securing federal environmental permits. Offeror shall secure all other permits.

- 3) It was mentioned in the Pre-Bid meeting that some of the utilities would have to be permitted with Leon County. There is also work to be performed outside of the limits of the Government's property. Florida Statutes, Chapter 489, requires the Prime Contractor (SDVOSB for this project) to possess an active General or Excavation Contractors license to pull permits and to perform this work. Without an active Florida License, the Contractor would be contracting without a license when performing the work outside of the limits of the Government's property which could lead to disciplinary action. Is it the Governments intent to recognize and comply with the State of Florida Statutes to perform these activities?

Response: The offeror shall secure all licenses and permits required. In accordance with FAR Clause 52.236-7 "permits and responsibilities". The Contractor shall, without additional expense to the Government, be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses and permits, and for complying with any Federal, State, and municipal laws, codes, and regulations applicable to the performance of the work. The Contractor shall also be responsible for all damages to persons or property that occur as a result of the Contractor's fault or negligence. The Contractor shall also be responsible for all materials delivered and work performed until completion and acceptance of the entire work, except for any completed unit of work which may have been accepted under the contract.

- 4) Sheet C-001, Asbestos and Lead Paint Removal notes, indicates that the Contractor is responsible for removal of asbestos containing materials and lead based paint. Is there an Asbestos and/or Lead Survey Report available for this

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project? If not, is the contractor responsible for providing this report? Without the report, there is no way to quantify the scope of the hazardous materials; thus, the Contractor would have to guess at what the scope of work would be. Please provide direction on how to price this work.

Response: See attached reports to aid in estimating asbestos and lead abatement.

- 5) Is the Contractor responsible for putting together the Storm water Pollution and Prevention Plan?

Response: Yes

- 6) Typically to meet the NPDES requirements, the Contractor is required to have a State Certified Stormwater Management Inspector on staff to inspect all sediment and erosion control devices on a weekly basis and after each .5" or more rainfall event. Is that a requirement for this project?

Response: Yes

- 7) Sheet C-012 Site Phasing Plan indicates in the Notes that the Temporary Contractor Yard is in Phase 1A but the layout drawing shows it as being 1B. Please advise.

Response: Contractor yard shall be installed at NTP and remain until Phase 1B is completed.

- 8) Does the overall demolition of the site need to be completed in phase 1A?

Response: Yes

- 9) Does all erosion control measures need to be in place prior to beginning construction of phase 1A?

Response: Yes

- 10) Site Plan Sheet C-203 indicates turn lanes to be installed in the medians of Apalachee Parkway. Is that work part of this project? Sheet C-400 Pavement Plan or C-500 Pavement Markings does not show this work.

Response: All work shown in the FDOT right-of-way is part of this project.

- 11) Sheet C-602 Indicates a typical reinforced wall section. This wall section indicates reinforced soil, keystone standard units and a grid. Please clarify the following:
- a. Specifications for reinforced soil.

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Response: See attached specification section 32-32-23 and shall comply with wall manufacturer's recommendations.

- b. Specifications for the grid

Response: Offeror shall comply with wall manufacturer's recommendations.

- c. Specifications for the Keystone Standard Unit.

Response: Offeror shall comply with wall manufacturer's recommendations.

- 12) Sheet a-600 Typical Wall Section 2 shows what looks like insulation between the top of the ICF Wall and the bottom of the SIPS Panel. Please provide direction on what is to be placed in that area.

Response: The hatch symbol indicates a spray foam insulation at the top of wall between the SIPS panel and the top of wall.

- 13) Are the personnel lockers included in the construction Contract?

Response: Yes. Please refer to Specification section 10-51-13.

- 14) Specification Section 051200 Structural Steel Framing indicates in 1.3 Quality Assurance that the Structural Steel has to be fabricated in an AISC Certified fabrication plant. The amount of structural steel on the project is so minimal that it is unlikely that an AISC Certified Fabrication Plant will provide a quote for the project. Furthermore, there are no AISC Certified fabrication plants in Tallahassee. Can this requirement be relaxed?

Response: Yes. The fabrication plant does not need to be AISC certified.

- 15) Specification Section 329000 Planting indicates planting dates for sod and seed. Has the start date of the project been coordinated to coincide with the sod planting season as indicated in the Specification? Will a variance be provided in order to ensure that the project can be completed within the Contract time?

Response: The Offeror shall propose according to RFP requirements.

- 16) How will the turf and grass be accepted for Phase 1A as per the Specifications?

Response: Work will be inspected and accepted in accordance with the RFP documents.

- 17) How much topsoil is onsite for reuse? We have no way to quantify this without more information.

Response: Offeror shall estimate amounts by takeoff of RFP documents.

- 18) What is the content of the onsite topsoil so that it can be determined whether soil amendments will be required?

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Response: Offeror shall propose in accordance with RFP documents.

19) Are there any vertical tolerances for the finish grade?

Response: Vertical tolerance for site grading is plus or minus 1".

20) Just to confirm, we are to put a Teaming Agreement in Volume 2: Price Proposal?

Response: Yes

Question #14

Sheet C-400 detail 5 shows a gravel cross section but does not provide the depth of gravel. Please provide depth of gravel. Also there are callouts for gravel road and gravel pavement are these the same?

Response: The gravel depth is 6". Gravel road and gravel pavement are the same.

Sheet C-401 Road after the curbed area headed towards St Augustine is hatched as heavy duty road. On the right half of the page it is labeled light duty road on the left heavy duty road. Which is correct?

Response: The entire road is heavy duty.

There is no typical section for this same road after the curb from stations 513+91 – 532+95. Please provide typical section.

Response: Sections are shown on C-419 and C-420

Question #15

The CPP stormwater piping is shown as following a curve between drainage structures. Particularly in the larger diameters, this pipe cannot be deflected much. Does the design take this condition into account? Typically, storm piping is limited to +/- 400 lf runs between structure. There are several substantially longer runs without intervening structures. Is this the intent?

Response: Offeror shall propose in accordance with RFP documents.

Question #16

1) Sheet C-400 Pavement Plan indicates to install gravel in the Temporary Maintenance Yard and Admin Yard but no depth is provided. Please clarify.

Response: Gravel depth is 6". Gravel road and gravel pavement are the same.

2) Sheet C-202 Site Plan Layout indicates to see sheet C-185 for the Gravel Construction Road into laydown area. Sheet C-185 does not exist. Please advise.

Response: Detail is shown on sheet C-600.

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- 3) Sheet A-032 indicates the construction of the temporary committal shelter. The concrete slab is not detailed as it pertains to the reinforcement of the slab. Also, it appears that there is a thickened edge but no details exist. Please advise.

Response: Use same details shown for permanent committal shelters.

- 4) Can we build the permanent committal shelter in lieu of the temporary shelter in phase 1A?

Response: No

- 5) The committal shelter on sheet A-130 indicates that there is some ornamental concrete finishing work. There is no specification for this ornamental concrete. Please advise.

Response: There is no ornamental concrete in the project

- 6) Sheet A-032. Does the temporary committal shelter roof structure and tongue and groove 2x6 material get painted to match columns?

Response: Yes

- 7) Sheet LP503 provides details on the flower watering stations. There are no details to indicate thickness of slab or required reinforcement. Please advise.

Response: Slab is 1'-0" thick under flower watering station and around gravel sump.

- 8) Sheet A-600 indicates to place 5/8" Cellular PVC Smooth Face Sheet Material in the soffit with matching trim. No specification was provided for this Cellular PVC Material. Please advise.

Response: Specified in Section 09 54 23.

- 9) Please confirm that we are to follow the City of Tallahassee's Specifications for the underground utility work.

Response: Offeror shall follow the City of Tallahassee's specifications for the underground utility work.

Question #17

Can you please tell me when this bid is due? We received the updated information last week but did not see a date listed. Please advise.

Response: Proposals are due on August 25, 2014 at 4:00 pm EST.

Question #18

Would it be possible to get access to the Architectural drawings for this project. We are a manufacturer of a range of PVC fabrications like columns and pergolas and was interested to learn if there would be any scope for this on this project.

Response: Drawings and specifications are posted in www.fbo.gov.

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Question #19

I am looking for a company to team with on this project in Tallahassee, would you help with a company or list of companies that want to team?

Response: List of attendees which include prime and subcontractors have been posted in Amendment #1.

Question #20

The drawings reference piping is to be in accordance with Tallahassee City Code, but the specifications do not. Because this is federal land, do the local specifications apply? Can you clarify what type structures the Storm Drains are to be? The structure table does not identify specific type of structure?

Response: Offeror shall follow the City of Tallahassee's specifications for the underground utility work.